

Council for the Prevention of Elder Abuse Regular Meeting
October 30, 2012 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Location: ADSS, 770 Washington Avenue, Ste. 570, Montgomery, AL 36130

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Commissioner Neal Morrison called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Commissioner Buckner thanked everyone for their hard work. Bill Garrett, on behalf of the Attorney General, thanked the committees for their work.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT

Todd Russell gave the members an overview of the proposed rules and procedures that the Rules Committee developed. Dr. Geary suggested that the minutes be posted online. Motion was made by Commissioner Buckner to accept the rules which were seconded by John Matson and unanimously approved by Council.

STATE LIAISON REPORT

Robyn James gave a Council update. The Council watched the video of Mickey Rooney. Robyn said the town hall events are on-going and have been a great success. The Council's World Elder Abuse Day video was shown at the White House. The Elder Justice and Advocacy brochures will be updated when we run out. The long-range plan needs to be developed. There is a grant possibility through the Medicare Rights Center. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Morrison led a discussion on the long-range strategic plan. Commissioner Buckner suggested a temporary committee be formed to accomplish this goal. The following organizations were appointed to the committee, but Commissioner Morrison said anyone is welcome to participate: ADPH, ADSS, AG's Office, Securities, DHR, District Attorney's Assoc., Civil Justice Foundation, Faulkner University, Medicaid, AARP, Silver-Haired Legislature and Nursing Home Assoc.

Motion made by Commissioner Buckner to approve the minutes from the last Council meeting. Seconded by John Matson and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative & Advocacy Report - John Craft gave a presentation on the proposed legislation that the Legislative and Advocacy Committee drafted. The legislation would create new article(s) in the Alabama Criminal Code for abuse that occurs to anyone age 60 or older. Director Borg suggested that Mr. Craft look to make sure the new articles

would not impact his penalties. Commissioner Morrison explained to everyone that it was agreed that the legislation would not do anything to change the APS statute. The proposed legislation included mandatory minimum sentencing in the previous draft, but that was removed. The Medicaid Funding fraud section was also removed. A motion was made by Bill Richards to approve the proposed legislation and allow Commissioner Morrison to find sponsor(s) and take it to the Governor. The motion was seconded by Joe Borg and it was unanimously approved.

Bill Richards suggested that the Council begin referring to the enabling legislation as Act 2012-495 instead of SB 262.

Community & Professional Education, Outreach - Susan Segrest gave an update on the Professional Development and Outreach Committee. The committee has been working on an Elder Abuse Protection Toolkit that will be used to educate seniors on abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation. The committee plans to hold focus groups in November through December. Susan showed the Council a draft of the toolkit. Comments from the committee and focus groups will be incorporated and then presented back to the Council at the December meeting. Commissioner Morrison asked everyone to let him know of any funding opportunities to get the toolkits printed.

Monica Sheeler gave an update on law enforcement training and said the committee has been working on a new law enforcement protocol document.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. Joe Borg offered for the meeting to be held at the Center for Commerce.

The Council's January meeting will be on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. Location TBA.

The meeting was adjourned.